

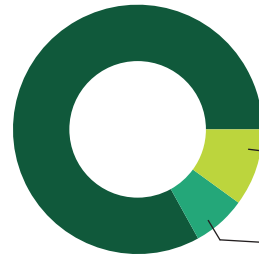
Human rights in Cranbrook

Cranbrook is home to



20,499
people

and is a major service hub for the entire east Kootenay region



10% of Cranbrook residents are Indigenous

7% are visible minorities

Housing and poverty are major human rights issues in Cranbrook

Safe, suitable and affordable housing is challenging to find ... and keep.



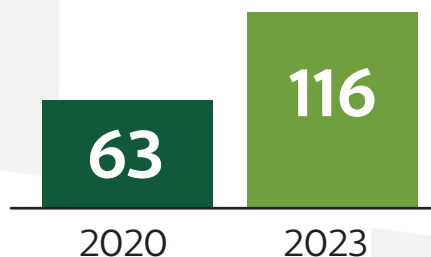
1 in 3 tenants spend



of their income or more on housing

Homelessness is increasing rapidly in Cranbrook

People experiencing homelessness nearly doubled between 2020 and 2023



Homelessness is experienced more often by Indigenous people



Indigenous respondents in Homeless Count

Indigenous percentage of the population

Access to health care is a human rights issue in Cranbrook



Although Cranbrook is home to the East Kootenay Regional Hospital and newly opened primary and urgent care centres, persistent barriers to health care remain, especially for people with chronic or complex medical conditions and marginalized people.

Indigenous people, people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness and people who use substances reported experiencing discrimination when trying to access health care.



British Columbia's
**Office of the Human Rights
Commissioner**

The toxic drug emergency has had a major impact

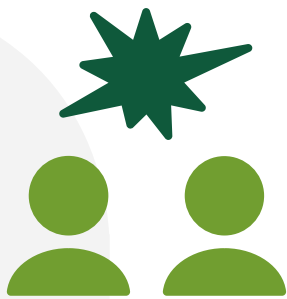


51 people died from toxic drug supply

January 2020

August 2023

Discrimination and hate are human rights issues in Cranbrook



Anti-Indigenous discrimination and gender-based violence in Cranbrook

Discriminatory attitudes towards women and gender-diverse people increase the risk of violence and hinder effective response and support for those who have experienced violence. This is especially true for Indigenous women, women who use substances and women with disabilities.

“ The hate and fear here, it’s really dangerous for women. They’re extremely vulnerable ... just walking downtown at night and you’re an Indigenous woman [or] if you look like you’re Indigenous. —Community member



About BC’s Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

Under B.C.’s *Human Rights Code*, B.C.’s Human Rights Commissioner is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights in the province. Learn more about our Office at bchumanrights.ca

BCOHRC Baseline Project in Cranbrook

The Baseline Project is a multi-year community-based research project, through which BC’s Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (BCOHRC) aims to understand the state of human rights in B.C. Cranbrook was one of four communities that we examined in detail. This work would not have been possible without Cranbrook’s Community partners: AIDS Network Kootenay Outreach and Support Society (ANKORS), Cranbrook Food Bank, Cranbrook Women’s Resource Centre, REALM Services Inc., Self-Advocates of the Rockies. In addition, we are grateful to Ktunaxa Nation’s Health and Social Sector for generously connecting us with many individuals who access their services.

For more information about Cranbrook’s human rights story, please consult the Cranbrook Community Brief at baseline.bchumanrights.ca/cranbrook